

EARLY CHRISTMAS
BUYING

Christmas is supposed to be a time of "peace on earth, good will to men." In actual practice, the holiday period is one of misery, nerve strain, headaches and weary limbs to many thousands of people. It is not possible for human beings to do a month's work in a week.

It is a bit of folly for every one to try to do a certain thing all at once. There are of course many people who never see an unmortgaged dollar in their purse. They may perhaps not be able to buy Christmas gifts ahead of the grand scrimmage. But the majority are not thus up against the wall. They could just as well start out tomorrow, make all Christmas purchases within a day or two, mail or express their presents at once, and distribute the business evenly over the period remaining before the holiday.

People ought to see the necessity of early Christmas buying, even if they personally live out of sight of the rush. In the country store, there may not be much more congestion of business than at other times. But country people send away millions of packages, and usually send them all in a heap. They add their share to the mountains of express and mail matter which have to be handled by transportation companies and centers of population.

Early Christmas buying is economically better. Purchasers get cleaner goods, and pick from larger assortments. If the public waits until the week before Christmas, merchants and transportation companies have to hire extra people, which makes the cost of their service higher. In the end, all such charges are always paid by the public.

No task is economical and efficient where the workers are driven and harassed by the work coming all in a heap. The loss in human friction and strain comes high, and the people pay it all in the end.

READING POETRY

A dispatch from Williamstown, Mass., tells how President Wilson was entertained on Thanksgiving day at the home of his daughter, Mrs. F. B. Sayre. The President after climbing a mountain, sat in front of the fire on the hearth and read poetry to the party of relatives. It was an idyllic scene, and an appropriate Thanksgiving morning. One suspects, however, that the number of men in the country who also spent an hour reading poetry was not large.

Among women the love for poetry is probably as strong as ever. The newspapers print more verses than ever. The bulk of them are lame of meter and slow in sentiment. But to some extent they satisfy the human need for other thoughts than dollars.

The writing of poetry is not to be commended to young men as a means of supporting a family. Many fluttering hearts bring poetry to the newspaper office when they might much better have spent the time making bread.

Perhaps the reason why men do not read poetry more is that the key note of the day is achievement. Men like to read accounts of big things done, the digging of a Panama canal, the strategy of a war, the accomplishment of business success. Competition is the keynote of masculine life.

The poetic muse travels a different path. She seeks for quiet spaces, to meditate on the inner meanings of life. Competition of markets and strife of dollars to her mind are illusions. She seeks beauty rather than power.

Such men as are fond of poetry are the better for it. The mind that runs along only one groove becomes dull, even for the ends which it cherishes.

No doubt President Wilson returns to Washington better fitted for political battle than if he had spent his poetry morning reading government reports.

TOWN HARMONY

One of the great problems which every moment for civic advance has to meet, is that of lining up all elements for team work. Harmonious cooperation of all interests is necessary.

A great many communities are cursed by petty jealousies. Their power for mischief affects every public enterprise. If one man starts a movement, all the people who do not like him begin to throw cold water. They make sarcastic remarks about his project. The result is that people

feel disinclined to take hold and push, for fear lest they make themselves ridiculous.

It is difficult to promote public objects under the most favorable conditions. The moment that people let personal feeling enter in, it becomes impossible to get unity of action. One set of people will try one thing, only to see it fail under a wet blanket of ironical skepticism. They feel disgusted, and the next time any one else starts anything, they in turn stand back and jeer.

The practical outcome is that every one feels afraid of starting any new movement, for fear of becoming ridiculous. It is easier to stand on one side and make superior remarks about the poor judgment of your neighbors than to take hold and push. Civic sentiment dissipates, and the town growth languishes.

Is there anything of that spirit here? Most towns have something of it, and some have far more than others. In so far as it exists, people should get over it. They must pull together, ignoring personal differences, if they want Logan to advance in population and public advantages.

THE PROGRESSIVE
CONFERENCE

Democrats and Republicans alike will find little to their liking in the action of the recent Progressive conference at Chicago. While the conference was no tremendous outpouring of enthusiasts, and in the main was piloted by men with defeated aspirations, yet there were a number of fragments of truth handed out to the people which it will be well for them to remember. Those who expected the Progressives to put through a resolution endorsing President Wilson, and paving the way for Governor Johnson of California to run on the ticket with him as candidate for vice president in 1916, were disappointed. Instead the Progressives passed this pithy morsel of facts which will be sure to leave a bad taste in the mouths of the Democrats:

The industrial depression and the consequent reaction against the Democratic tariff was undoubtedly the issue which primarily determined the reactionary results of the election.

Another piece of truth which applies to both parties is the charge that both the Democratic and Republican parties have passed tariffs that the people have successively repudiated. This is the important truth that should be remembered. There is no question but that the Payne Aldrich tariff defeated the Republican party, and there is no question but that it was the Wilson-Underwood tariff that caused such a change of sentiment in the election just passed. There is no question but that the people of the United States, a great majority of them, are protectionists and therein lies the basis of the work that must be done during the next two years. Shall two parties that believe in protection to American industries continue to work separate and apart, and permit a party that believes in free trade to administer the affairs of the government? Or will the two wings of the party get together and instead of fighting each other, make warfare on the common enemy? There is no disputing the fact but that the tariff question has uprooted both parties. There is no disputing the fact that what the people want is a common ground tariff administered by a union of all the forces who believe in protection to American industries.

THE MAN WHO IS ON
THE SQUARE

I care not a shuck for a man's nationality, nor his political opinion; nor his mode of worship; they are all the same to me; but the man who is "on the square" is the man I want to take by the hand, and go through life with as a friend. Nor can we stop with the individual or corporation. Empires and nations are today as never before on the basis of the square deal.

Our nation is influenced by the action of another nation, which have this effect on every citizen. A square dealing nation makes a square dealing citizen; a square dealing jobber tends to make a square dealing retailer, and in turn the influence of the square dealing retailer produces an effect upon the lives of every patron with whom he comes in contact. We cannot too keenly realize the effect and importance of a square deal.

—Jos. W. Bragdon.

Old papers 5c a bundle.

CAPT VON MUELLER
VERY HUMOROUS

When Seeking Prizes Would Ask in English, "Have You Seen the German Cruiser Emden?"

San Francisco, Dec. 2.—The reckless daring and ironic courtesy of Captain von Mueller of the German cruiser Emden, lately destroyed by an Australian warship, after one of the most brilliant careers recorded in the annals of the sea, are illustrated in anecdotes brought home to day by Capt. Phillips of the Standard Oil tanker Wabasha which narrowly missed capture by the Emden in the straits of Malacca. The Wabasha flies the British flag.

When seeking prizes the Emden would ask in English:

"Have you seen the German cruiser Emden?"

"No," would come the answer, disclosing the proximity of a merchant man.

"Thank you," would be von Mueller's reply. "We'll be alongside directly. Prepare for the worst."

While Capt. Phillips was at Calcutta the tale was told on the quays of how von Mueller had nearly succeeded in beguiling the commandant there into furnishing him with supplies.

"This is the British cruiser Hampshire," came a code message from the mouth of the Hooghly river. "Send us coal and provisions."

A barge was actually loaded and dispatched, Capt. Phillips was told and would have been delivered but for the arrival of an Italian merchantman which sighted the Emden and brought word of von Mueller's presence.

"Thank you for your courtesy," he flashed back, and when he learned that his ruse had been uncovered.

"Hope to meet you later. Have the beer ready."

NO AMALGAMATION
FOR PROGRESSIVES

Chicago, Dec. 2.—Reports of a possible amalgamation of the Progressive party with either the Republican or Democratic party were characterized as "idle fancies" and reports that disbandment of the Progressive party was a possibility were equally ridiculed by members of the Progressive party executive committee who held a conference here today.

Party leaders from 32 states who attended the conference showed no outward lack of enthusiasm for their party when state chairman told of conditions in their states. George W. Perkins of New York, chairman of the committee, presided. After these talks it was the intention of the committee to go into executive session.

Members of the committee who were present were:

George W. Perkins, New York; William Flinn, Pennsylvania; Walter F. Brown, Ohio, and Jane Addams and Medill McCormick, Illinois.

Among the other prominent leaders in attendance were E. A. Van Valkenburg, Philadelphia; Senator Moses E. Clapp, Minnesota; Hugh H. Halbert, St. Paul, Gifford Pinchot, Pennsylvania; Charles M. Thomson, Chicago; Raymond Robins, Chicago; Charles E. Burbank, Massachusetts; William Allen White, Kansas; Victor Murdock, Kansas; James R. Garfield, Ohio and Frank H. Funk of Illinois.

SOUPS A MEANS OF ECONOMY

The cost of living can be reduced with little effort if only American women will realize the economy of soups. Never throw food away, no matter how small the amount. Save it for soup. Save also all drippings and bones, all water in which vegetables have been boiled and put aside for the soup. Add a little barley or tapioca balls soaked over night to the clear stock, a little celery seed, a dash of paprika, salt and pepper, and simmer. Never boil soup.

Sometimes you will want a clear soup. Take broth from the pot roast, and for soup for the next day add noodles. There are many ways to cook these soups at little or no expense, but the best way is to use your leftovers and experiment in combining ingredients, and you will soon be an expert at soup making.

The want ads come very near to the people. They reflect the intimate life of all of us. They form a directory of our personal and business needs. Is this not so?

Belgian Sharpshooters In Action
On the Sand Dunes of Flanders.



Photo copyright, 1914, by American Press Association.

This picture shows an interesting side light of the sharpshooting efforts of the Belgian soldiers on the sand dunes of Flanders. These two crack riflemen made a fort out of this odd shaped tree. The one at the top found a natural platform to stand on, while the branches made perfect concealment. The soldier at the foot of the tree fired through the heavy underbrush.

'Merry Christmas' Wish Is
Taboo on Gifts to Belgians

New York, Dec. 2.—Not even the words "Merry Christmas" may be written on packages of supplies sent to the starving Belgians.

The American commission for relief in Belgium announced today that the placing by donors of an inscription of any sort inside or outside the package might subject the entire consignment to confiscation by officials suspicious of a military code message.

The prohibition extends to expressions of sympathy and even initials of senders. Private marks or tags are equally objectionable. The neutrality conditions under which goods go from Rotterdam into Belgium are that positively no mark or message of any description is permitted to which German officials could object.

Dendermonde Destitute

London, Dec. 2.—Herbert Clark Hoover, chairman of the American relief committee, today received from the municipal authorities of Dendermonde a letter which is typical of the many pathetic requests for relief for which come to the committee daily from Belgium. In this letter it is said that 1200 houses in Dendermonde have been destroyed and that the population of the city has been reduced from 10,000 to 4,000.

Spanish Potash Deposits

Consul General Hurst writes from Barcelona, under date of October 6, that up to the present potash has not been extracted in Spain in commercial quantities. It has been proved, however, that potash does exist near Barcelona, that it is fairly amenable to refining, and that the deposits may become a basis of a world trade, with Barcelona as an export center. Examination and tests thus far have indicated only enough potash for consumption in Spain, but they have been so limited that it is impossible to estimate the quantity and grade of the deposits and the difficulties that may have to be undertaken in mining for this salt.

It is presumed from the varied data gathered that the potash beds are extensive and rich and likely to have an important bearing on agriculture and certain highly important manufacturing industries, both in the peninsula and abroad. What is now needed is a scientific and extensive survey of the regions in that part of Spain where marked traces of potash salts have been found. For

local consumption it is now probably possible to put certain quantities of potash on the market. As an article for export in regular and unfailing shipments, present indications do not point to a definite or even early conclusion.

The tracts in Catalonia in which beds of potassium salts exist are chiefly in the two provinces of Barcelona and Lerida, particularly in the latter near the towns of Suria and Cardona on the Cardener river.

At present, concessions do not go beyond Solsona on the north and the towns of Tarrega, Servera and Manresa on the south, the entire district being practically confined between the Segre and Llobregat rivers. In this delimited region a number of these claims for mining concessions has been made on lands where there is no conclusive proof that potash exists in commercial quantities, although it is possible that these lands contain potash and that the potash producing area may extend considerably beyond the confines mentioned. Thus far the prospecting has been

All of those who remain belong to the working class, and as they have no means of obtaining employment they are absolutely destitute.

"We have nothing here," says the letter. "Our greatest needs are few food, beads, clothing and coal."

Appeals to Cardinal Gibbons

Baltimore, Dec. 2.—Cardinal Gibbons today received a cablegram from Sir Gilbert Parker, the distinguished English novelist at Maasticht, Holland, appealing to the cardinal to assist the American commission for Belgian relief in their "staggering task."

"Here I watch penniless, homeless Belgians fleeing from their naked land," the message adds. "Many towns and cities are absolutely destroyed. Countless homes are stones and ashes. Hundreds of thousands lack food and clothes. They ask for bread and salt no more, as it is not forthcoming. The commission asks for half of a soldier's ration for each starving Belgian."

"In your land of plenty there are millions who would give if they knew. Will your eminence not help to make them know? In the name of Christianity and humane compassion I make this appeal."

satisfactory at and near Suria, but a thorough investigation must be made at Cardona and Callus, nearly midway between which Suria is situated.

The potash now used in Spain must be imported at prices over which the buyer has no control. Consumers of potash in Spain are urged to free themselves of this dependence. It is thought that Spanish potash can be put on the market at much lower figures than those now quoted for the imported article. The consumption is growing rapidly in Spain where the potash is extensively used in the olive groves, vineyards and wheat fields.

There will be some difficulty in arriving at an accurate estimate as to the extent of the potash beds, because the salt does not lie in a regular basin, as in upper Alsace and at Strassfurt, Germany. Borings will have to be made with expert knowledge of the geological formation of the country under consideration. A Spanish mining engineer has stated that an appreciable amount of capital will be required to make the necessary survey in Catalonia, but that the chances for finding potash in remunerative quantity are favorable.

FOR THE CIRCULATION

To exercise properly the worker must arise half an hour earlier than usual. This may seem hard at first, but the benefit derived from this half an hour of early morning exercise will repay one for any inconveniences. Fifteen minutes should be devoted to physical culture exercises in front of an open window immediately after arising. They should be simple in character their object being to start the circulation. Deep breathing should form a good part of these early morning exercises.

Of course, a warm wrapper should be thrown over the nightgown in order to protect one from the cold air. With the circulation started in this way, go to the bathroom, which should be warm, and there rub the body vigorously with a rough Turkish towel. This will start the blood rushing into the body until one glows all over. After rubbing for five minutes, jump into a cold tub. If you are not used to taking a cold bath each morning, begin now to accustom yourself to this sort of treatment. It is one of the surest ways of wading off colds. The first time you take a cold tub, have the water tepid, the next morning a trifle colder, and so, on each day until you are able to take an entire cold bath. In the middle of winter take the chill off the water by allowing a small portion of hot water to run in with the cold.

If you do not react from the shock of this cold plunge, then the cold dip is not for you. If you become chilled and your lips of a bluish tinge, you may be sure that your system does not take kindly to this treatment. Continue the rubbing with the rough towel and be content to bathe the chest only with dashes of cold water.

After a substantial breakfast devote fifteen minutes to walking before going to the office. When the day's work is over, walk part of the way home, at least a mile, which is equivalent to eight city blocks.

NOVELTIES IN HAT ORNAMENTS

Feather fancies, which are one of the most prominent features of millinery for the season are sown in great variety. One style imitates remarkable well luxurious mounts of aigrettes and paradise feathers. The glycerine treated ostrich is a favorite, and imitation aigrettes are finished with tassels of ostrich shower pompons with curled or twisted feather flues. These are favored in shades of French blue, gray and a rich shade of pink. The later color is particularly popular worn on black velvet hats.

A model in a black velvet sailor had a novel trimming in a metallic fringe of lavender color, and had a large metal rose on the brim. Hats are more quite in color and shape of novelty is largely in the trimming.

COVERS FOR SCHOOL BOOKS

Good looking school book covers can be made of crash or of a rather coarse weave of linen. Ecru is always a good color, as it offers a neutral ground for any decoration.

BAKERY HINT

When you bake next time put a wet cloth in the oven when you put the bread in. The crust will not be so brown or hard.